

**Notice of Public Scoping
Grazing Permit Renewals
and
Land Health Assessments**

Comment Period: Open until **October 31, 2005**

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The Royal Gorge Field Office (RGFO) is soliciting public comments on the following two topics: First, 16 grazing permit/leases will expire during Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 (10/1/05 – 9/30/06). To process the renewal of these permits/leases we would like the public to identify any issues, concerns, or resource conditions on the allotments(s) associated with the permit/leases, to assist us in prioritizing the work. The following grazing permits/leases will expire during FY 2006:

FY 2006: Permit Renewals			
Allotment Name	Federal Acres	Permittee/Lessee	County
Midland Hill #05871	6,558	Sailor, Rand L.	Chaffee
Rhyolite Mtn. #05244	319	Gaffney, Jack	Teller
Box Canyon #05243	940	Gaffney, Jack	Teller
Lookout Point #05104	427	Gaffney, Jack	Teller
High Park #05114	2,452	Oscar Green Ranch	Fremont
Long Hollow #05113	170	Oscar Green Ranch	Fremont
Gageby Creek #05856	80	Karney Land & Cattle Inc.	Bent
Vanbromer Arroyo #05788	120	Biber, Stanley	Las Animas
Grouse Mtn. #05069	6,397	Chapman, James R. & Marlene J.	Teller
West Guffey #05124	240	Payne, William V. JR	Fremont
Diamond A North #05850	80	Barr, Robert C.	Pueblo
Ideal Canyon #05752	160	Solis, Michael A. & Gloria J.	Heurzano
High Creek Allotment #05739	1,180	Mills, Joanne	Park
Haynes Creek #05887	4,413	Thatcher Land & Cattle CO.	Pueblo
Hooker Hills #05852	200	Clark, Frazier	Pueblo
North Spring Branch #05804	70	Choin, Chuck B.	Heurzano

Also, in FY 2006, the RGFO is currently planning on conducting public land health assessments on grazing allotments within various watersheds in Park and Heurfano Counties. A number of livestock grazing permits/leases in this area may also be reviewed and renewed during FY 2006. The health assessments will be planned on the following allotments:

FY 2006: Health Assessment Areas			
Allotment Name	Federal Acres	Permittee/Lessee	County
Antero Res. Allotment #05228	826	Esparza, Rafael S.	Park
Antero Reservoir #05904	384	Esparza, Rafael S.	Park
Balfour North #15012	400	Stonebreaker, W.N.	Park
Buffalo Creek #05920	80	Salt Works Ranch	Park
Burlingame Ditch #05831	430	Saunders, Roger S.	Park
Como #05799	1,402	Hurst, Edna L.	Park
Como Park #05805	200	Hutchinson, James D.	Park
Como Park East #05801	4,909	Innes, Monte K.	Park
Crooked Creek #05756	698	Plankinton, Bruce R.	Park
Eleven mile Canyon #05141	9,998	Elk Mountain Cattle CO.	Park
Four mile Creek #05910	1,682	Plankinton, Bruce R.	Park
Four mile Ranch #05794	543	Esparza, Rafael S.	Park
Garro #05703	1,943	Shaw, Tom	Park
Harlin Ditch #05789	696	Walker, Marcus W.	Park
High Creek #05239	1,181	Mills, Joanne	Park
Kaufman Ridge #05304	4,045	Sipal, Oldrich & Katherine	Park
Link Ditch #05707	434	Johns, David, John & Darrell	Park
Logan Hill #05795	694	Engelman, Wyatt L.	Park
Malice Ditch #05792	607	Esparza, Rafael S.	Park
Michigan Campground #05903	1,136	Wahl, Frieda Estate-Frida Bargas	Park
Mulligan Lakes #05720	363	Magness Land & Cattle	Park
Park Gulch #05800	2,991	Denison, James	Park
Park Gulch East #05828	320	Hurst, Edna L.	Park
Playa Lakes #05939	1,640	Eagle Rock Ranch	Park
Pruden Creek #05169	320	Snare, Kenny & Cindy	Park
Red Hill Pass #05770	1,227	Rex Motors Inc.	Park
Salt Works Pasture #05180	160	Salt Works Ranch	Park
Santa Maria #05744	120	Carey, James A.	Park
Silver Heel #05853	160	Silverheels Land & Cattle	Park
Steel Gulch #05913	449	Boston, Frank	Park
Trout Creek #05735	2,461	Yunikar, William	Park

Trout Creek North #05088	550	Safari Horse Ranch LTD.	Park
Trout Creek South #05080	885	Alta Vista Ranch LLC.	Park
Twelve mile Club #05851	1,915	Neukirch, Dave C.	Park
Warm Springs #05729	1,750	Hart, Donald R.	Park
Stanley Creek #05908	4,861	Wolf Springs Ranch	Heurfano
South Gardener #05775	4,640	Unallotted	Heurfano

The RGFO will be reviewing and making decisions on a number of the grazing permits/leases and allotments listed above. Grazing use on these allotments will be analyzed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and reviewed for conformance with BLM land use plans and compliance with Standards for Public Land Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing in Colorado. Since the level of NEPA analysis is in part driven by the level of public interest and concern, your comments are requested relative to conditions you have observed on these allotments, and/or specific environmental concerns about the lands and/or resources found within the specific allotment. The more specific and factual your information is, the more helpful and useful it will be. We welcome comments regarding these permits/leases and allotments at anytime. However, for specific comments and issues to be included and addressed in the analysis of these allotments, they need to be submitted by November 1, 2005. Please contact Keith Berger, Tom Grette or Jeff Williams at (719) 269-8500 if you have any questions regarding this matter.